

PATENT APPLICATION

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 3628**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masamichi TAKAHASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3628

Application No.: 10/762,471

Examiner: A. ROBINSON BOYCE

Filed: January 23, 2004

Docket No.: 118462

For: EVALUATION APPARATUS AND EVALUATION METHOD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the April 11, 2008 Office Action, please consider the following remarks.

Claims 1-18 are pending.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the finality of the Office Action because it is not caused by applicants amendment. In particular, the January 22 Supplemental Amendment was made completely at the suggestion of the Examiner as requested during the January 17, 2008 personal interview. It was argued during the personal interview that "an inquiry unit configured to direct inquiries to the groups concerning activities" recited in claim 1 and correspondingly recited in claims 6 and 11 should be properly construed to be inquiries addressed directly to the members of the groups and not automatically and impersonally sensed by sensors in office equipment such as mouse, keyboard, etc. While agreeing with the above assertion, the Examiner requested that this proper construction be made more clear by